



ΕΡΩΠΕΪΚΗ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΟ ΕΥΡΩΠΕΟ ΕΥΡΩΠΣΚΥ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤ ΕΥΡΩΠΑ-ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΕΤ  
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**COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**- THE CHAIRMAN -**

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Mr Reimer BÖGE  
President of the Committee on Budgets  
European Parliament  
ASP 10E130  
BRUSSELS

Dear Colleague,

Allow me to draw your attention to the outcome of a discussion that took place at the meeting of coordinators of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs on 28 February, concerning the precautions that ought to be taken by Parliament in conducting the preparatory work for the implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon.

Having regard to an agreement recently reached with the President of the European Parliament, the coordinators of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs concluded that the preparatory work, at both internal and interinstitutional level, should start immediately. It was acknowledged, however, that given the politically sensitive nature of some of the issues at hand, a degree of caution needs to be exercised. In particular, it would not appear appropriate to deal with politically sensitive aspects in preparatory documents concerning the implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon while important discussions concerning the ratification of this Treaty are still ongoing in the Member States. A similar approach is being taken by the other institutions concerning their preparatory work, and this principle seems acquired insofar as the interinstitutional contacts on the matter are concerned.

I have been asked to contact the chairpersons of other committees dealing with the implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon and inform them of these conclusions. In fact such an approach calls for the cooperation of all the bodies of the Parliament in order to be successful. It is my understanding that the Committee on Budgets is preparing an important report on the implications of the Treaty of Lisbon in financial and budgetary matters. This report is expected with high interest, not least by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as it will provide useful guidance for its own report on the adaptation of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament to the Treaty of Lisbon in relation to financial and budgetary matters.

It would therefore appear highly advisable that any document concerning the implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon which addresses politically sensitive matters be examined only when it becomes sufficiently clear that the Treaty will enter into force.

Yours sincerely,

Jo LEINEN